Catholic Theatre Conference

PRODUCTION CALENDAR

Vol. 8 October 1948 No. 1

MID-ATLANTIC REGION

Due to pressure of many duties Mr. W. L. H. Bunker of Philadelphia Philopatrian Theatre Guild, was obliged to resign as chairman of the Mid-Atlantic region. To fill the vacancy Father Schroeder has appointed Mr. Edgar L. Kloten of Fordham University.

Mr. Kloten is Staff Director of the Theatre Division, Department of Communication Arts. His work as a playwright, designer, director and producer is known in New York, Buffalo, Washington and Florida. Author of three plays which were produced at Catholic University he was for three years director for the Blackfriars Guild in Washington, D. C. and instructor in speech at Saint Joseph's Academy, St. Augustine, Fla.

Currently he is directing Fordham University production of "Captain Jinks of the Horse Marines" in conjunction with the City of New York's Golden Jubilee Festival.

NORTH-PACIFIC REGION

The West Coast region has been divided into two new regions, i.e., the North-Pacific and the South-Pacific. Mr. and Mrs. John Garzero of Los Angeles, former co-chairmen of the West Coast region, will head the new South-Pacific.

Named by Father Schroeder to chairman the North-Pacific is Rev. Anthony Juliano. Father Juliano is a former Loras College student where he gained great theatre knowledge in theory and practice. While at St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, Md., he gained further experience in producing and directing. Recently he has been assigned to Central Catholic High School in Portland, Oregon, which placed him in a propitious spot to promote interest in the Conference.

NEW REGIONS

Father Schroeder in his capacity as President has given considerable thought to the regions of the Conference and has made two new appointments and various new geographical divisions. For complete details see page 2.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Co-chairmen, Mr. Joseph Rice and Mr. Emmet Lavery, are busily preparing details for the national convention to be held in Los Angeles on June 15, 16, 17 and 18. Mr. Rice has held a meeting of the Immaculate Heart College faculty people, who are taking local responsibility. In a few weeks he plans a meeting of a community committee including representatives of the other colleges and the Chancery office.

In planning the Summer Theatre program of Immaculate Heart College they are trying to make it attractive enough to hold a substantial group of the delegates. So, if you plan to take some theatre work this coming summer, here's an opportunity to study on the spot thus putting your transportation expenses to double use!

DUES REMINDER

The new fiscal year begins with October 1st. Only those with paid up dues will be permitted a vote during the closed business meeting of the convention.

Membership dues are $10.00 per year with a registration fee of $1.00; subscriber's fee is $3.00.

316 West 57 Street, New York, 19 Circle 7-0236

Established 1937

CONFERENCE REGIONAL DIVISIONS

Because of various changes we suggest you check your particular state to determine your region and regional chairman.

NEW ENGLAND: Sister Alicette,
Matignon High School,
Cambridge, Mass.

Conn.	Maine
Mass.	Rhode Island
Vermont	New Hampshire

EAST CENTRAL: Miss Sally Moormann,
137 Cleves Avenue,
Cleves, Ohio

Ohio	Kentucky
Michigan	Indiana

WEST CENTRAL: Rev. R. A. Johnston, S.J.
St. Louis University,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Missouri	Oklahoma
Kansas	Texas
Nebraska	Arkansas

NORTH CENTRAL: Sister Charitas,
Academy of Holy Angels,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Minnesota North & South Dakotas

CENTRAL: Sister M. Angelita,
Immaculate Conception Academy,
Davenport, Iowa.

Illinois	Wisconsin
Iowa	Upper Michigan

MID-ATLANTIC: Edgar L. Kloten,
Fordham University,
New York, N. Y.

New York	Delaware
New Jersey	Pennsylvania

PACIFIC SOUTHWEST:
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Garzero,
920 N. Robinson Street,
Los Angeles 26, Calif.

California Nevada

PACIFIC NORTHWEST:
Rev. Anthony Juliano,
Central Catholic High School,
2401 S. E. Stark,
Portland 15, Oregon.

Oregon Washington
Idaho Panhandle

SOUTHERN: Sister M. Immaculate,
St. Joseph Academy,
Wheeling, West Va.

Maryland	Florida
West Virginia	Tennessee
Virginia	Mississippi
Louisiana	N. Carolina
Alabama	S. Carolina
Georgia	District of Columbia

MOUNTAIN: Sister M. Philip,
St. Mary-of-the-Wasatch,
Salt Lake City, Utah.

Utah	New Mexico
Montana	Colorado
Idaho	Wyoming
Arizona	Trans-Pecos-Texas

CANADIAN: Rev. M. D. Dubee,
1650 Valois Street,
Montreal, Quebec.

All of Canada.

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CANADIAN FESTIVAL

News from the Cathespian Guild of Montreal tells of plans for the Inter-Provincial Festival on Nov. 13 with two groups participating - Catholic Teachers Guild and Ottawa Catholic Youth Organization. The former is the winner of the Montreal Festival last May and the latter the runner-up in the Ottawa City Festival.

TRIAL BY FIRE

Rev. Geo. Dunne, S.J. play is receiving an extended run by the CYO Theatre Workshop of Chicago. Seventeen performances running from Oct. 19 through Feb. 16 have been scheduled with presentations for schools, colleges, academies, universities and organizations throughout Chicago and its suburbs.

CENTRAL REGION FESTIVALS

CHICAGO: The fourth annual Chicago Play Festival will be held on Nov. 26, 27 and 28 at Loyola Community Theatre. Arrangements are being handled by the Executive Committee comprised of: Samuel F. Listerman, S.J.; Walter J. Kapica, S.J., Walter L. Bamberger, Sister Mary Agnese, S.P. and Miss Therese Marie Cuny. For more complete details see story on page 5.

MILWAUKEE: Plans for another Thanksgiving weekend Festival are being supervised by Leon Schlenk, S.J. of Marquette and Mrs. Olive Linn of Holy Angels Academy. Further details to be announced at a later date.

WHY HAVE THEATRE?

In a not too old issue of the New York Times, Brooks Atkinson discussed the reasons for theatre and its value to the life of the community. The following are various excerpts from his article.

"Before the days of the motion picture, which is America's pre-eminent entertainment medium, traveling companies and stock companies filled the need every community has for diversion and stimulus to the imagination. The motion picture, however, has not been a completely satisfactory substitute, partly because of the standardization of the product, but partly because it is not social and personal. Whatever the reason, the United States is now permeated with professional, semi-professional and amateur theatres and theatres are a standard part of university life.

"The growth in numbers and the improvement in standards of independent theatres have been the most significant factors in the life of the theatre in the past twenty-five or thirty years.

"The theatre enriches community life. It brings people together for a common emotional experience, and occasionally for an intellectual experience as well. Without a theatre a community is not fully alive. Nobody is fully alive who cannot apply (Cont'd. on page 4)

NORTH-CENTRAL FESTIVAL

The Conference and the Minnesota Catholic High School Association will hold a one day Play Festival at the Academy of Holy Angels in Minneapolis under the chairmanship of Sister M. Charitas. Catholic schools of St. Paul and Minneapolis will participate. Nine of ten Twin City schools have registered; five of these belong to the Conference.

St. Joseph's Academy, Visitation, St. Agnes and St. Anthony High Schools, St. Margaret's Academy, Derham Hall, St. Thomas Military Academy, Cretin High and Holy Angels Academy are the participating schools.

Rev. Karl G. Schroeder, Conference President, will be the Critic-Judge. Chairmen of the Conference from other states will be among the invited guests. Pastors and Supervisors of the Twin City area are expected to be present. This will mark the first Play Festival given by Catholic schools in this area.

MID-ATLANTIC MEETING

Newly appointed Regional Chairman, Edgar L. Kloten, has scheduled a regional meeting for November 5 and 6 to be held at Fordham University.

Preliminary plans include productions in the Penthouse Theatre, Experimental Theatre and the triple-stage main theatre. Forums are planned on Production Problems, Play selection, Costuming and Radio.

RELIGIOUS SERIAL

"The Lord's Footsteps", a religious serial in eight reels, has been announced by Library Films, Inc. of New York. Separate editions are available for Catholic and Protestant groups. The serial starts with two reels devoted to the land of Our Lord's birth and youth followed by six reels devoted to His life and death.

BULLETIN

Have you reimbursed the national treasury for your copies?

WHY HAVE THEATRE?
(Cont'd. from page 3)

to the theatre as much discrimination and appreciation as he applies to the work by which he earns his living.

"The value of the theatre to a community lies here. It is a vivid and vibrant expression of truths and ideas - satire, comedy and tragedy; and it helps to make life whole.

"For the most part the theatre is entertainment, which is something everybody is hungry for. But sooner or later every theatre tires of a steady diet of entertainment and starts peering inside human beings, where the greatest mysteries and wonders of the world are gathered. For about three thousand years dramatists have been peering inside human beings without solving the mysteries or exhausting the wonders, and this process is likely to go on for a few years more.

"It is a good thing to have a theatre in the neighborhood to find out what is going on in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere".

AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT

The Chevron Players of St. Mary Academy, Monroe, Michigan will make their first "semi-public" appearance in a venture in Peripatetic Theatre. All the members of the dramatic club will form an escort for the big truck on which the stage will set up for "Paging Shakespeare".

The "Court Players" will go to four different courts where the grade school, the high school, the sisters, and the boys' school will be assembled.

Sister Margaret Mary, I.H.M. is the director of the players, who are making the most of what they have in spite of all obstacles. In many instances it is a supreme challenge to the ingenuity of the girls.

CONVENTION ATTENDANCE

Are you doing your best to build up enthusiasm for the Convention? We expect the West coast to be well represented but a complete convention must include representatives from all parts of the United States and Canada.

N.Y. BLACKFRIARS NEW PLAY

The Blackfriars Guild of New York will open its eighth season with THE MINSTREL BOY, opening October 14 and scheduled to run to November 14. It is the story of Tom Moore, Ireland's great song writer and ballad singer, who wrote "The Last Rose of Summer", "Believe Me if All Those Endearing Young Charms", "Oft in the Stilly Night" and many others.

The script in its original version was written by W.A.S. Douglas, a Chicago newspaperman. Father Nagle was given permission by Mr. Douglas to do some re-writing. The play will be directed by Dennis Gurney.

"JENNY KISSED ME"

It is now official that the young producing team of James Russo and Michael Ellis will produce Jean Kerr's comedy, JENNY KISSED ME, which was written and received its first production at Catholic University.

Leo G. Carroll has been named as the star with John O'Shaughnessy as director. Rehearsals scheduled to commence before mid-October.

Since the play is tied up for professional production it precludes any possibility of the script being available for Conference members. Many, many requests have been received by the Service Bureau.

JUST A REMINDER

When interesting new members in joining the Conference it would be well to keep in mind that there is a one dollar initiation fee in addition to the ten dollars membership fee. A great deal of added letter writing and account keeping could be avoided by the correct initial payment. The dollar seems a trifle in individual cases but adds up to a considerable amount over the year when all cases are taken into consideration. It means added revenue to help take care of the heavy postage and stationery overhead, to mention just two items.

CHICAGO PLAY FESTIVAL

Plans for the festival to be held at Loyola Community Theatre over Thanksgiving weekend are well under way. Miss Anna Helen Reuter, director at Immaculata and Alvernia High Schools together with Miss Mary Beecher, director at Saint Michael's and Mallinckrodt High Schools are in charge of publicity. They report as follows:

"An estimated 2000 people are making plans to attend the three day drama festival to be held at Loyola Community Theatre. Twenty-two Catholic high schools in Chicago and surrounding suburbs are preparing one act plays to be staged during this Fourth Annual Festival.

"Critic-Judge of the festival will be Mr. Albert McCleery of Fordham University, New York. The following schools will participate: Alvernia High School, Academy of Our Lady, Immaculata High School, Providence High School, Visitation High School, Good Counsel High School, Loyola Academy, St. Ignatius High School, St. Mel's High School, St. George High School, St. Elizabeth High School, Marywood High School, Mallinckrodt High School, St. Michael Central High School (Girls), Loretto Academy, St. Scholastica Academy, Mt. Carmel High School, De Paul Academy, Weber High School, Loretto High School, Holy Family Academy and St. Louis Academy.

ARE YOUR DUES PAID?

If you are looking forward to a local seat and vote in the closed business meeting of the Convention next June it will be wise not to let your membership lapse.

FRENCH SCRIPTS

Sister Florentine of Putnam Catholic Academy, Conn., writes: "I would like to inquire about French plays. You see, we put on annually two plays, one in English and one in French. The latter is as well attended as the former and our girls perform with ease in both languages, which is a definite asset to our French speaking population. Do you think French plays could be incorporated into our library without too much trouble? If you could find out just how many schools do as we do perhaps there would be a definite reason for establishing this section of the library?" What do you think, Members?

NOTES OF INTEREST

Catholic University Drama Dept. has 131 under-graduates and 59 graduate students for a total of 190 this school year. Thirteen faculty members meet 500 students per week in the drama department classes as many students from other departments are studying with them.

Thirteen from Catholic University produced a Summer Season of plays in Adrian, Michigan presenting "Kiss and Tell", "Charley's Aunt", "Night Must Fall", "Angel Street", "Our Town" and "The Importance of Being Ernest".

Sister Margaret Mary, I.H.M. of St. Mary Academy, Monroe, Michigan claims the enrollment in the Speech and Drama course has "sky-rocketted" this year as a result of the Play Festival held among the classes last year.

Six graduate students just out of the Theatre Division of Fordham University have received appointments to college faculties throughout the U.S. Rev. Vincent de Paul O'Beirne, S.J. announced that all six had completed their work this past summer for the Master of Fine Arts Degree. The new appointees and their assignments are as follows:

Robert Emerick - Loras College, Dubuque.
John McCabe - Wayne University, Detroit.
Frank Stein - Concord College, Athens, W. Virginia.
Willard Walsh - LaSalle University, Philadelphia.
Harry Paul - State Teachers College in Towson, Maryland.
Regina Owens - St. Joseph's Academy, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Les Compagnons will open their new Sherbrooke and Delorimier Theatre on Oct. 28 with a French adaptation of "The Glass Menagerie".

The new resident playwright at Fordham University is Joseph Cuneen.

One of our favorite characters is Sister Francis, who thwarted Petrillo agents when they attempted to halt a broadcast by the choir of Notre Dame Convent in Ottowa. Sister Francis had without fanfare, but with considerable foresight, joined Local 802!

CROSS COUNTRY CIRCUIT

Canada: Montreal-St. Aloysius Dramatic Society - AARON SLICK FROM PUNKIN' CRICK - Sept. 29 and 30.

Canada, Quebec - St. Genesius Players Guild - 15 performances of LADY OF FATIMA, opening October 15. Also a Radio Workshop and Writers' Workshop with weekly broadcasts.

Florida, Miami - Gesu Drama Guild - OUR HEARTS WERE YOUNG AND GAY, Oct. 5 through 7.

Illinois, Alton - Marquette High, LADY OF FATIMA - Oct. 17, 18 and 19.

Illinois, Chicago - Mundelein College Sociology Club - TRIAL BY FIRE Oct. 29 & 31.

Iowa, Dubuque - Clarke College, Oct. 27 Penthouse Portraits - arena theatre presentation of THEY'RE NONE OF THEM PERFECT with Kathryn McCarthy as the student director; WHITE QUEEN, RED QUEEN - Faculty Director, Miss Laura Wright. Speaker - Rev. James Donohue of Loras College.

Iowa, Dubuque - Loras College - THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST - Oct. 24 and 25.

Kentucky, Covington - Catholic Theatre Guild of Northern Kentucky - LADY OF FATIMA - Sept. 25, 26, 28, 29 and 30.

Minnesota, Duluth - College of Saint Scholastica - announce season plans to include I REMEMBER MAMA, LADY OF FATIMA and a Variety show.

Minnesota, Winona - College of Saint Teresa Players assisted by the Burbage Players - LADIES IN RETIREMENT - Oct. 29, 30 and 31.

New Jersey, Wood Ridge - Assumption Players - Oct. 9 and 10 - LADY OF FATIMA.

New York, Jackson Heights - St. Joan of Arc Theatre Guild - THE FAR OFF HILLS repeat performance - Sept. 17.

New York, New Rochelle - College of New Rochelle - LOVE'S LABOUR LOST - Oct. 21 - directed by Margery Hunter of Catholic University for MFA degree.

Ohio, Cincinnati - Mother of Mercy High School Masque and Gavel - Oct. 5 - 16 juniors formally initiated into the dramatic society in presence of members of faculty and Alumnae. Election of officers and social.

Penna., Pittsburgh - Catholic Theatre Guild - LADY OF FATIMA - week of Oct. 10.

Washington, D.C. - Catholic University Oct. 15-30, KING LEAR directed by Basil Langton with James Waring as "Lear".

Wisconsin, Madison - Blackfriars' Guild Oct. 29 - YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU.

Addenda:

Illinois, E. St. Louis - St. Teresa Academy - Oct. 13 - LADY OF FATIMA.

New York - Fordham University - Nov. 4, 5, 6 and 7 - CAPTAIN JINKS OF THE HORSE MARINES.

New Jersey, Jersey City - Gothic Players - mid Oct. LADY OF FATIMA.

Ohio, St. Martin - School of Brown County Ursulines - HANSEL AND GRETEL Oct. 26 - singing pupils, glee club, drama department and art department collaborating on the production.

Mass., Weston - Regis College - Drama Club presented original radio script commemorating St. Joseph Community Diamond Jubilee in Boston.

PRODUCTION NOTES

--Several costumes for Loras College presentation of THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING ERNEST were made by New York costumer, Helene Pons, from sketches sent to her from the play's director, Rev. Karl G. Schroeder.

--Rev. Gilbert Hartke, O.P. attended the College of New Rochelle production of LOVE'S LABOUR LOST to pass upon the play directed by Miss Margery Hunter, an alumna of the college. The play was part of her requirements for her Master of Fine Arts degree from Catholic University.

--Fordham University production of CAPTAIN JINKS OF THE HORSE MARINES will be presented as one of the series of plays being given by six colleges for the city of New York Golden Anniversary.

NEWS BITS

--The new President of Catholic Theatre Guild of Northern Kentucky is Robert C. Wehr.

--Rockhurst College, Kansas City, Mo., is planning repeat performance of THE MISER to raise funds for financing of the West-Central meeting and festival to be held in February.

--Dayton Blackfriars have custom of reprinting in their monthly paper, The FRIARCRACKER, a resume of news, etc. contained in Conference Bulletin and Calendar so all members may be aware of them.